

UNCLASSIFIED

CO22

05/26/94

09:59

WALTER R. TUCKER + 202 387 1034

NO. 797

087

James
 Jim Collins
 Jay Chapman
 Joe Hampton
 Joe Chambers
 Sam Jefferson
 Steven
 Barbara-Rose Collins
 Joseph
 St. Dennis Johnson
 BC Whip



RELEASED IN FULL

Congressional Black Caucus Congress of the United States

H2-344 House Annex #2

The Ford Building

Washington, D.C. 20515

202 — 226-7780

May 4, 1994

22

The Honorable William J. Clinton
 President
 The White House
 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
 Washington, DC 20500

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN S BLODGETT
 DATE/CASE ID: 06 OCT 2006 200103014

William Clay, MO '69
 Louis Stokes, OH '69
 Ronald V. Dellums, CA '71
 Charles B. Rangel, NY '71
 Carmen Calton, IL '73
 Harold E. Ford, TN '73
 Julian C. Dixon, CA '79
 Major M. Owens, NY '83
 Edolphus Towns, NY '83
 Alan West, MO '83
 Floyd Flake, NY '87
 John Lewis, GA '87
 Kwesi Mfume, MD '87
 Donald M. Payne, NJ '89
 Craig A. Washington, TX '90
 Barbara-Rose Collins, MI '91
 Gary Franks, CT '91
 Bennet Holmes-Norton, DC '91
 William Jefferson, LA '91
 Maxine Waters, CA '91
 Lucien Blackwell, PA '91
 Eva Clayton, NC '92
 Sanford Bishop, GA '93
 Corrine Brown, FL '93
 Jim Clyburn, SC '93
 Chas. Stacks, LA '93
 Alton Hartsage, FL '93
 Earl Hilliard, AL '93
 Eddie Brown, Indiana, TX '93
 Cynthia McKinney, GA '93
 Carrie Mack, FL '93
 Mel Reynolds, IL '93
 Bobby Rush, IL '93
 Robert Scott, VA '93
 Walter Tucker, CA '93
 Melvin West, NC '93
 Albert Wynn, MD '93
 Bennet G. Thompson, MS '93
 U.S. Senate
 Carol Mosley Brown, IL '93

Dear Mr. President:

The Congressional Black Caucus met today and voiced urgent concern about the terrible situation in Rwanda. We feel it is of such importance that we request your personal attention to this matter.

What we are viewing daily on TV is the swiftest man-made carnage of the century. In less than five weeks the death total in Rwanda already exceeds the 200,000 dead from two years of civil war in Bosnia.

Also of concern is the fact that the media have generally characterized Rwanda's massacres as uncontrollable "tribal violence". The facts indicate that the slaughter in Rwanda was planned and consciously triggered by a privileged clique of extremist political and military leaders who are determined to block political reforms that would loosen their exclusive grip on power. While most of the civilians killed are Tutsi, many Hutu opposition leaders were assassinated by extremist Hutu elements.

UN Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali has made an urgent plea to the Security Council for additional peace keeping forces to be drawn primarily from Africa to re-enforce the 270 UN Peace Keepers still in Rwanda with an expanded mission to protect innocent civilians. Unfortunately, the Security Council has not yet responded. The Secretary General on his own initiative has also requested African countries individually to supply troops. The problem seems to be the lack of advanced logistical capability to rapidly respond, as well as funds to support the effort.

UNCLASSIFIED

05/26/94

10:00

WALTER R. TUCKER + 202 397 1034

NO. 797

008

Honorable William J. Clinton
Page 2

We call on the United States to take aggressive leadership in the Security Council to back the Secretary General's recommendations and to pledge additional funds appropriate for this purpose. We are certain that you are aware of the complexity of our nation urging funds from other countries such as Belgium and France, which should share this burden, when we are more than \$300,000,000 behind in paying our own peace keeping assessment. Therefore, this quick action to pledge funds is most important.

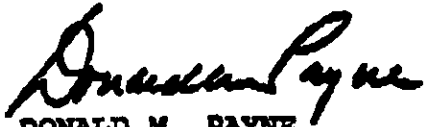
Furthermore, because both Belgium and France are considered partial to the various factions in the Rwanda crisis, it may not be possible to expect military logistical support from them. These factors suggest participation would more appropriately include Canada, the United Kingdom or the United States. If necessary, both military logistical support and funds should be considered.

Time is of the essence. Delayed action could cause the violence to spread to Burundi and even Zaire, causing further instability in Africa.

On behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus, we ask that you begin an urgent mobilization of the American people to support this effort. As the most powerful democracy in the world, we are compelled to act.

Sincerely yours,


KWEISI MFUME
Chairman
Congressional Black Caucus


DONALD M. PAYNE
Ranking CBC Member
House Foreign Affairs
Committee

UNCLASSIFIED

202 225 1926

R-95X

05-26-94 09:55AM P008 #32